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Security Council

Sixty-fifth year

Provisional

6387th meeting

Friday, 17 September 2010, 10 a.m.

New York

President:	Mr. Apakan	(Turkey)
Members:	Austria	Mr. Mayr-Harting
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Mr. Vukašinović
	Brazil	Mrs. Viotti
	China	Mr. Wang Min
	France	Mr. Briens
	Gabon	Mr. Moungara Moussotsi
	Japan	Mr. Miyajima
	Lebanon	Mr. Assaf
	Mexico	Mr. Heller
	Nigeria	Mr. Onemola
	Russian Federation	Mr. Churkin
	Uganda	Mr. Rugunda
	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	Sir Mark Lyall Grant
	United States of America	Ms. Anderson

Agenda

The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo

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10-53846 (E)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted.

The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The President: I should like to inform the Council that I have received a letter from the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in which he requests to be invited to participate in the consideration of the item on the Council's agenda. In conformity with the usual practice, I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite that representative to participate in the consideration of the item, without the right to vote, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

At the invitation of the President, Mr. Ileka (Democratic Republic of the Congo) took a seat at the Council table.

The President: The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda. The Council is meeting in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations.

After consultations among members of the Security Council, I have been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council reiterates its strong condemnation of mass rapes which occurred in the East of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in late July and August, reaffirming its resolutions 1820 (2008), 1882 (2009), 1888 (2009), 1894 (2009) and 1925 (2010) and recalling its statements to the press on 26 August and 8 and 9 September, the Security Council urges the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to ensure a swift and fair prosecution of the perpetrators of these terrible crimes and to inform the Security Council on measures undertaken to this end.

"The Security Council expresses its readiness to consider all appropriate actions, including targeted measures against the perpetrators.

"The Security Council stresses the primary responsibility of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo for ensuring security in its territory and protecting its civilians with respect for the rule of law, human rights and international humanitarian law.

"The Security Council calls upon the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to condemn these atrocities, to provide effective assistance to the victims of sexual abuse, to support efforts undertaken by all relevant stakeholders, including civil society, to protect and assist the victims and to prevent further violence.

"The Security Council reiterates its urgent call to the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in cooperation with the United Nations and other relevant actors, to put an end to impunity; in particular, those bearing responsibility for gross human rights violations must be held to account. The Security Council is determined to support the Congolese authorities in addressing the root causes of the above incidents.

"The Security Council stresses that the fight against impunity is an integral part of the urgently needed reform of the security sector. It encourages the Congolese authorities to pursue their efforts with the support of relevant multilateral and bilateral donors and the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) within its current mandate, to strengthen its military capacity, to reinforce the training and equipment of the Congolese National Police and to enhance the capacities of the justice and corrections systems.

"The Security Council takes note with interest of the recommendations made by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to enhance efforts to protect and defend civilians and improve MONUSCO's impact in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

"The Security Council underlines the need for MONUSCO to improve relations with communities, including through better information-gathering mechanisms and communication tools. In that regard, the Security

Council urges MONUSCO to pursue efforts to enhance its regular interaction with the civilian population to strengthen confidence and raise awareness and understanding about its mandate and activities. It draws attention to the importance of increased community liaison, increased patrolling and appropriate communication equipment in needed areas.

"The Security Council supports the launch by MONUSCO and the United Nations country team of a sensitization campaign, including through Radio Okapi, to encourage victims of sexual violence to report and to seek treatment and legal assistance.

"The Security Council reaffirms its resolve to eliminate all forms of violence against women and children during and after armed conflict. It supports the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, and encourages her to regularly interact with MONUSCO's sexual violence unit to coordinate the United Nations response and monitor the implementation of the United Nations comprehensive strategy on combating sexual violence in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The Security Council looks forward to her trip to the country later this month and requests a briefing upon her return.

"The Security Council requests a briefing by the Secretary-General on MONUSCO's strategy for the protection of civilians and the overall challenges the Mission faces in implementing this strategy. The Security Council continues to support a comprehensive approach to the protection of civilians and to ensuring peace and security in the region, in particular efforts to accelerate the effective disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of Congolese armed groups and the disarmament, demobilization, repatriation, resettlement and reintegration of foreign armed groups, to fighting against the illegal exploitation of natural resources and to establishing effective State authority and strengthening the rule of law in conflict-affected areas."

This statement will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/PRST/2010/17.

The Security Council has thus concluded the present stage of its consideration of the item on its agenda.

The meeting rose at 10.20 a.m.